

PBT Initiative for PCBs

Summary

- **Overall objective of PBT PCB initiative is to reduce risks from PCBs**
- **Projects:**
 - **Voluntary reduction of PCB equipment (National, Federal, Regions, International)**
 - **Monitoring of PCB equipment in use & storage**
 - **Inventory of storage and sediment dewatering sites**
 - **Assessment of non-point sources**
 - **Monitoring (air, fish)**
 - **Additional monitoring**

PBT Initiative

Background

- PBT = Persistent, Bioaccumulative, and Toxics
- EPA's PBT Strategy – identified 12 PBTs:
 - aldrin/dieldrin, alkyl-lead, benzo(a)pyrene, chlordane, DDT, dioxins/furans, hexachlorobenzene, mercury and compounds, mirex, octachlorostyrene, PCBs, and toxaphene
- Goal of the strategy is to reduce risks to human health and the environment from current and future exposure to PBTs

PBT Initiative for PCBs

Background

- **Priorities**
 - **PCBs, mercury, dioxin/furans**
 - **monitoring and risk communication**
 - **national action plans**
- **PBT National Action Plan for PCBs**
 - **final draft:**
- **More information on PBT strategy/initiative is at:**
 - **<http://www.epa.gov/pbt>**

PBT Initiative for PCBs

Outline – Priorities for Action

- Goals and Measures (long/short term)
- Priorities for Action (beyond base programs)
 - phaseout uses
 - remediate sites and sediments
 - evaluate source and exposure data
 - communicate risk
 - conduct monitoring
 - address international contribution

PBT Initiative for PCBs

Goals

- Long-term goals
 - able to consume fish and other species without showing PCB levels associated with negative health effects
 - marine, aquatic, and terrestrial species no longer exhibit PCB levels associated with negative health effects

PBT Initiative for PCBs

Goals

- Short-term goals
 - decommission high-level (500 ppm) PCB electrical equipment
 - evaluate existing PCB source and exposure data to set priorities for characterizing remaining sources, establish monitoring needs, and identify quantifiable targets for long-term goals
 - develop framework for risk communication
 - help build the capacity of two countries to comply with international agreements

PBT Initiative for PCBs

- Measures
 - human, wildlife, and environmental trend data
 - disposal data (for phaseout and remediation)
 - surveys (for risk communication)

PBT Initiative for PCBs

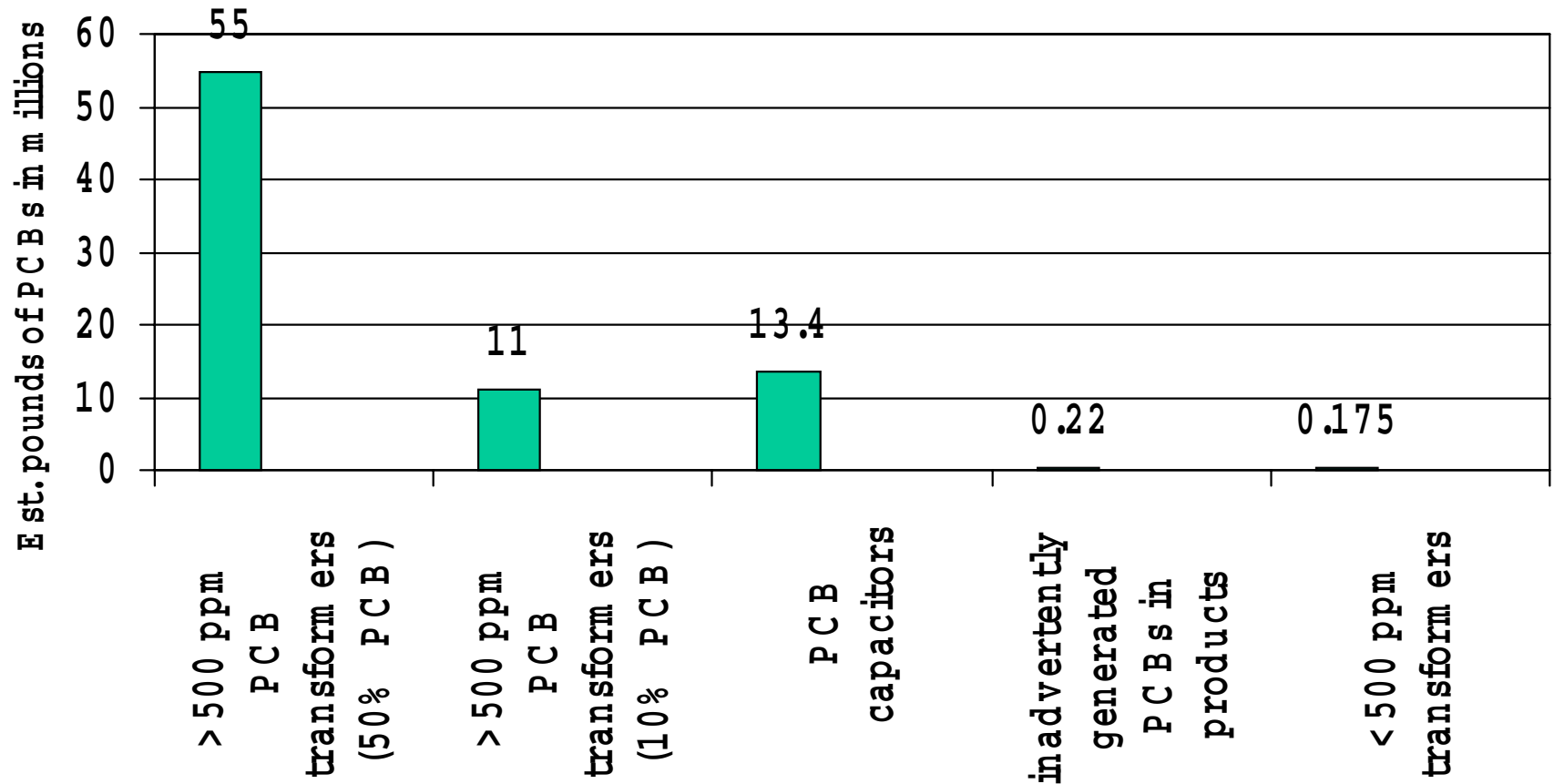
Outline - Technical Assessment

- Description of PCBs
- Health and Environmental Baseline
 - Health effects
 - Exposure
 - PCBs in Use, Land, Sediments, Water, Air
 - Atmospheric Deposition
- EPA Program Baseline & Plans
 - Health effects
 - Exposure
 - PCBs in Use, Land, Sediments, Water, Air
 - Atmospheric Deposition

PBT Initiative for PCBs

Background Data – Estimated Pounds of PCBs in Products

DRAFT



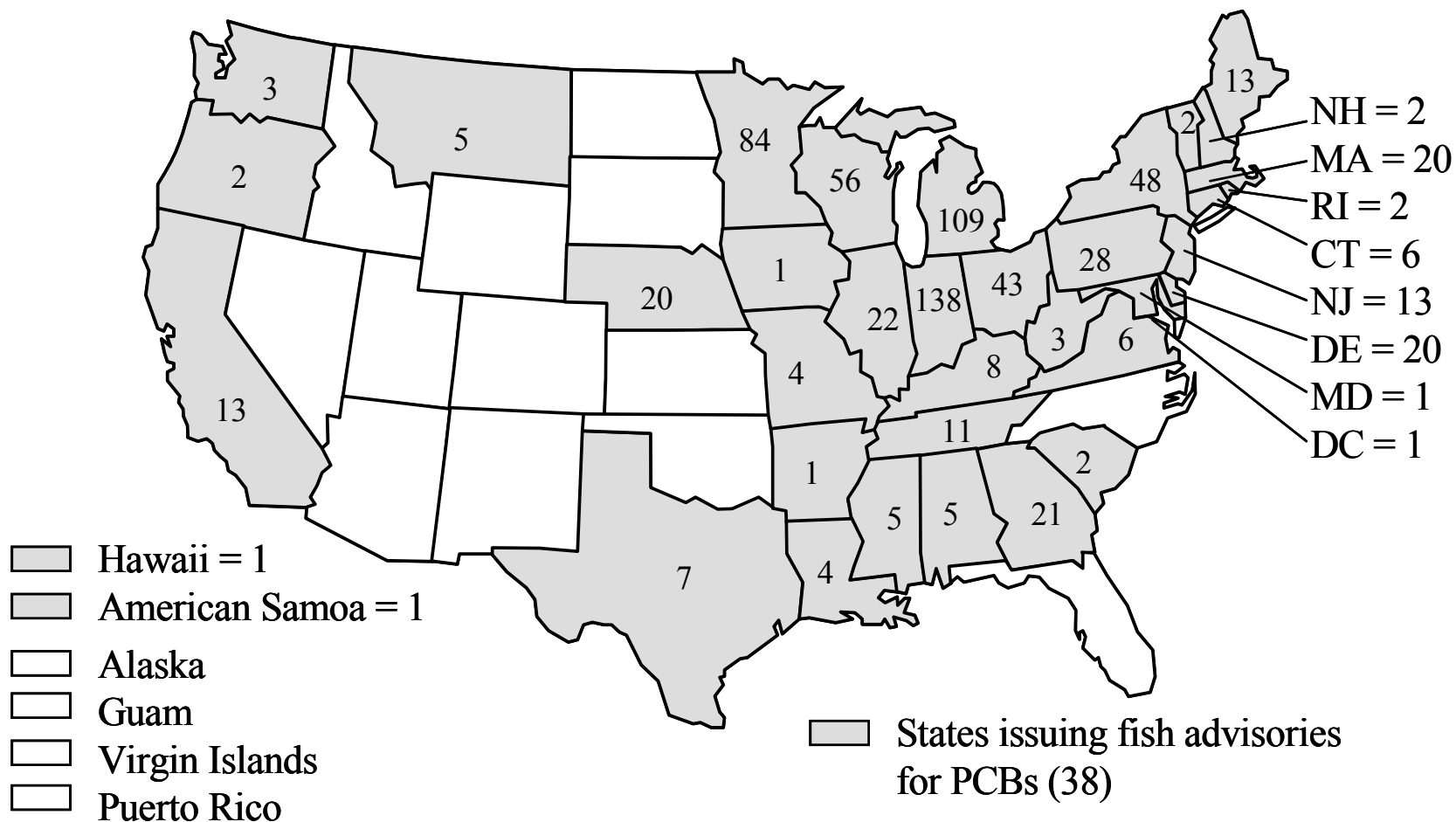
PBT Initiative for PCBs

Background Data – PCBs Spills in U.S. (reported to NRC)

Year	Number of Reported Spills (to NRC)
1993	364
1994	306
1995	205
1996	114
1997	90
1998	95
1999	156
2000	204
2001	302

PBT Initiative for PCBs

Background Data – PCB Consumption Advisories in 2000



PBT Initiative for PCBs

Projects (Priorities for Action)

Decommissioning equipment with PCBs

- **Funded and ongoing**
 - National outreach project
 - Regional work with utilities to approach customers
 - (Region 2)
 - Regional work with state and local companies and organizations (beginning with utilities)
 - (Regions 9 and 10)
 - Federal facilities voluntary PCB phaseout initiative
 - Phaseout of PCB equipment in mines
 - (Region 8)

PBT Initiative for PCBs

Projects (Priorities for Action)

Source Characterization Monitoring

- **Funded:**
 - ambient air around transformer and transformer storage yard
 - inventory storage and sediment dewatering sites
 - assessment of non-point sources for developing TMDL for PCBs in Delaware Estuary
 - municipal landfill air monitoring (w/ dioxin)
 - national fish tissue survey
 - International air deposition network (IADN)

PBT Initiative for PCBs

Projects (Priorities for Action)

Source Characterization Monitoring

- **Plans:**
 - continue and follow-up on above
 - soil survey (w/ dioxin) (beyond coplanars)
 - other

PBT Initiative for PCBs

Projects (Priorities for Action)

International projects

- **Funded, ongoing, and continuing**
 - Russia PCB phase-out assistance
 - Caribbean PCB inventory/management
 - PCB equipment phaseout in mines

PBT Initiative for PCBs

Co-planar PCBs

- Toxicity – special concern for coplanar PCBs
 - dioxin-like PCBs always present in PCB mixtures
 - dioxin-like PCBs produced during combustion
 - link between PCB and Dioxin strategies

PBT Initiative for PCBs

Multi-national strategies

– Binational Toxics Strategy

- PCB Workgroup

- case studies

- photographs

- www.epa.gov/glnpo/bns/pcb

– International

- UNEP POPS

- www.chem.unep.ch

PBT Initiative for PCBs

What's next

- What's next
 - continue to develop, pursue, and fund projects
- Questions/Comments
- Contact
 - Tony Martig, EPA Region 5, 312-353-2291